



UNIVERSITETI I EVROPËS JUGLINDORE  
УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ НА ЈУГОИСТОЧНА ЕВРОПА  
SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

## Study program **Leadership and Community Youth Work**

Faculty Contemporary Social Sciences

Study Cycle First Cycle (Undergraduate)

ECTS 180

### Description of the program

The objective of the undergraduate program Leadership and Community Youth Work is to enable the students to get the title of Community Youth Worker. This course will enable and train the students to work in all government institutions at the central and local levels, academic institutions and nongovernmental institutional environments of pre-education centers, pupil and student dormitories, as well as in youth clubs and centers. The studies will also train and prepare the students to work in the local community and society in general and it will enable them to learn the importance of research work.

The program aims to create professional community youth workers who will be able to train youth leaders and youth workers. The program will equip students with a reflexive, analytical approach towards their work so they can work in a constructive and professional way as community youth workers and as trainers. The program will also contribute to the professionalization of community youth work in Macedonia.

#### Aims of the program:

- To establish youth work in a social context and to study the legal aspects pertaining to community youth workers.
- To compare human growth and development from a personal perspective and to explore the different living conditions of individuals, groups and society.
- To give students insight into environmental problems from both local and global perspectives, as well as their impact on the community and society in general.
- Particularly, to study the effects of trauma in post-conflict society.
- To study the role of special education and how it affects children, youth and family.
- To give students a complete overview related to health and health problems in the modern society.
- To develop the students' knowledge of various professional issues related to community youth work.
- To deepen understanding of the various practical areas of community youth work.
- To deepen understanding and practice of students for group work as one of the strategies for intervention.
- To introduce and develop the initial skills and theories of counseling as a tool in working with youth.
- To deepen the students' knowledge and practice in dealing with conflicts.
- To develop good management practices in community youth work.
- To familiarize the students with the methodologies of research.
- To prepare the students for planning and conducting research in the chosen area that is associated with community youth work.

### Career

Upon completion of these studies the students can be employed in educational and social welfare organizations, governmental and nongovernmental sectors, pre-school education centers, secondary schools, youth projects, youth clubs

and youth centers.

## Learning outcomes

### Knowledge and understanding

- There is basic knowledge of the problems which youth are facing in their immediate and wider environment.
- There is basic knowledge in the field of leadership and community youth work, such as: individual work, group work, basic theoretical knowledge about conflict management and basic theoretical concepts during adolescence.
- There is an understanding of the different practices in the youth work in the community from a comparative aspect (Western Balkans and Scandinavia).

### Applying knowledge and understanding

- Planning, preparation and implementation of training for work with children and young people through methods and activities from informal education.
- Application of the acquired knowledge in NGOs that focus on issues related to youth.
- Conducting developmental research in the community, through which youth's concerns will be identified.
- Demonstration of leadership abilities to organize smaller or larger groups of young people through various conceptual, developmental and goal-oriented projects.

### Making judgement

- To assess the individual and collective needs of young people through a process of constant observation and counseling.
- To develop a critical approach to social policies, the functioning of groups and social networking, as well as socialization and ethical dilemmas in working with youth.
- To identify and evaluate the group dynamics and processes while working with young people.
- Ability to assess the needs of young people for using their free time effectively.

### Communication skills

- Ability to creatively interact with young people through various forms of communication (verbal and non-verbal communication) in a multiethnic environment.
- Ability to effectively communicate with governmental and nongovernmental sectors, with the business sector and for raising awareness of the youth needs in the community.
- Ability to promote the needs and current issues of youth through mass communication.

### Learning skills

- Readiness for their own development and education in the field of community youth work.
- Designing and promoting various initiatives to involve youth in different spheres of social life.
- Transferring knowledge and experience to the target groups through informal education training.

## List of courses

### Semester 1

- [3.0 ECTS] **Computer Skills**
- [3.0 ECTS] **English**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Working with Individuals and Groups**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Community Youth Work and Adolescence**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Albanian/Macedonian Language**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Working with Conflict and Diversity and Youth Work Management/elective**

### Semester 2

- [6.0 ECTS] **Introduction to Community Youth Work Training**

- [6.0 ECTS] **Community Youth Work Training Environment**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Introduction to Sociology**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective II**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Introduction to Community Youth Work Training**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Free elective in the Field of Youth Work / practical work I**

### **Semester 3**

- [5.5 ECTS] **Community Youth Work and Society**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Learning and Development**
- [7.5 ECTS] **Global Environment and Environmental Protection**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective III**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Elective II**
- [5.0 ECTS] **Practical work II/ or elective subject in the Field of Youth Work**

### **Semester 4**

- [8.5 ECTS] **Special Education**
- [7.5 ECTS] **Health and Community Youth Work**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective IV**
- [5.0 ECTS] **Practical work III/or elective subject in the Field of Youth Work**
- [6.0 ECTS] **Professional Community Youth Work**

### **Semester 5**

- [5.0 ECTS] **Advanced level: Working with Individuals**
- [5.0 ECTS] **Advanced level: Working with Groups**
- [5.0 ECTS] **Advanced level: Conflict Transformation**
- [5.0 ECTS] **Community Youth Work Management**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective V**
- [7.0 ECTS] **Practice of Youth Work Community /elective**

### **Semester 6**

- [5.0 ECTS] **Research Methodology**
- [15.0 ECTS] **Research Project**
- [3.0 ECTS] **Free elective VI**
- [7.0 ECTS] **Elective in the Field of Youth Work/practical work V**

## **Description of courses**

### **Core courses**

- **Computer Skills**
- **English**
- **Working with Individuals and Groups**  
The aim of this course is to increase self-awareness, to improve skills, knowledge and behavior necessary for establishing effective communication with individuals and to start recognizing the concept of working with a group.
- **Community Youth Work and Adolescence**  
The aim of this course is to enable the students to start understanding the concept of community youth work, as well as the concept of personal development. The course also aims to raise the awareness of adolescents in order to better understand youth in the community.
- **Albanian/Macedonian Language**

- **Introduction to Community Youth Work Training**

In this course students will gain knowledge about the principles of training in community youth work and research in community youth work. During this course the students will explore the values and principles of community youth work; community youth work training, including the principles of training for transformation (transformation education) and its benefits for the post-conflict countries and countries in transition. Learning theories, different learning styles, needs analysis for training and various training types will also be explored. Principles and methods of group work and facilitation will be investigated as well. Students will deal with their personal learning styles, strengths and weaknesses and they will learn and practice in a level A course.

- **Community Youth Work Training Environment**

In this section we will explore the basics of social research, theories and practices within community youth work, with particular focus on the strengths of relations, equality and diversity issues (including, but not only in terms of, gender, health, marginalized groups, etc.).

- **Introduction to Sociology**

The aim of this course is to provide the students with solid knowledge about the most important sociological phenomena, and to train the students to take a critical attitude towards the above mentioned phenomena and to learn about the individuals who have contributed, and who contribute to the development of this science. In this course the students will be offered basic knowledge related to the subject matter and methods of sociology, the founders of sociology, and the classics of civil sociology, the basic Marxist ideas in terms of sociology, the study of contemporary sociologists, culture, religion, political institutions, family, social differences and stratification, etc.

- **Community Youth Work and Society**

The aim of this course is to set youth work in a social context and to examine the legal aspects pertaining to community youth workers. Content \* Educational systems in the Balkans \* Laws related to youth, children and family \* Democracy - theories and concepts \* Legal requirements for community youth workers \* Youth advocacy, young people's access to information

- **Learning and Development**

The aim of this course is to compare human growth and development from different perspectives and to familiarize the students with the different living conditions of individuals and groups in the society. \* Human development - different perspectives of development and socialization, education in different environments and living conditions. \* Children's culture and youth culture. \* The impact of transition in post-communist societies. \* Different perceptions of learning and communication - ways of learning. \* Active listening, reflection, questioning and conversation, and techniques in working with young people and adults. \* Using creativity in working with youth - arts, music, dance, photography. \* Research methods - observation and interview.

- **Global Environment and Environmental Protection**

The aim of this course is to investigate environmental problems from both local and global perspectives, and their impact on the community and society in general. Content \* Energy and its production. \* Population trends and demographics. \* Pollution and waste. \* Greenhouse effects. \* Health problems in the world. \* Poverty. \* Globalization and global economy. \* Working with young people on global issues.

- **Special Education**

Through this course the students will learn about the impact of trauma in post-communist society. Content \* Theory of trauma. \* Life consequences in post-conflict society. \* Social and economic effects of trauma resulting from war. \* The effects of post-communist transition. \* Physical, mental, social and emotional handicaps. \* Theory of social inclusion versus segregation. \* Behavioral disorders and psychological problems from an individual perspective, aspects of relationships and social aspect. Contemporary theories and concepts, constantly repeated and treatment / intervention. \* Rights of individuals with disabilities and services for people with physical, mental, social or emotional disabilities. \* The problem of child abuse.

- **Health and Community Youth Work**

The aim of this course is to expose the students to complete health examination and health problems in modern society.

- **Advanced level: Working with Individuals**

The aim of this course is to introduce and develop initial counseling skills and theories, as a tool for working with individuals. \* Introduction to counseling. \* Theory and approaches in counseling. \* Practice of counseling. \* Managing strong emotions (one's own and others'). \* Ethics in counseling. Self-assessment in the process of counseling. \* Managing the process of counseling and information in youth work. Youth advocacy. \* Contextual application of counseling skills.

- **Advanced level: Working with Groups**

The aim of this course is to deepen students' understanding and practice of group work, as one of the strategies of intervention. Content \* Detailed theoretical aspects of group work. \* Definition of leadership. Understanding power and authority. Status and hierarchy in groups. \* Tasks and processes, with emphasis on process work. \* Teaching groups using the process methodology. \* Managing different types of groups. \* Peer education in community youth work. \* Research and working with groups.

- **Advanced level: Conflict Transformation**

The aim of this course is to master the knowledge and practice in working with conflict. Content \* Introduction to Peace Studies. Theory of Peace Studies. Social reconstruction. \* Understanding and analysis of personal conflicts, conflicts in the community and social conflicts \* Theory and practice of mediation. \* Application of the mediation process to groups and communities. \* Human rights in conflict situations. \* Research on work in divided societies.

- **Community Youth Work Management**

This course aims to develop good management practice in community youth work. Content \* Understanding the structure of community youth work. \* Cooperation with local and national authorities. \* Development of NGOs. \* Managing employees and volunteers. \* Self-improvement in a leadership role. \* Responsibility and basic financial accounting. \* Strategic planning and using the LFA program planning. \* Practice of support and supervision. \* Selection and hiring of employees and volunteers.

- **Research Methodology**

The aim of this course is to familiarize the students with research methodology.

- **Research Project**

The aim of this course is to prepare the students for planning and conducting research in the specified field which is associated with community youth work. Planning and implementing research projects in community youth work will result in writing a dissertation.

## **Elective courses**